

Message Text

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TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: TEXT OF STATEMENT MADE BY AHTISAARI ON
ARRIVAL AUGUST 6 IN WINDHOEK

THE UN SECRETARIAT CIRCULATED AUGUST 10 THE FULL TEXT OF
THE PUBLIC STATEMENT MADE BY UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
AHTISAARI ON HIS ARRIVAL AUGUST 6 IN WINDHOEK. THE
TEXT FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT.

THIS IS INDEED A MOMENTOUS OCCASION FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
AS WELL AS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND THE PEOPLE OF
NAMIBIA AS A WHOLE.

THE ARRIVAL IN WINDHOEK OF THE UNITED NATIONS SURVEY
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MISSION FOR NAMIBIA, WHICH I HAVE THE HONOUR TO LEAD AS
THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IS
THE POSITIVE RESULT OF LENGTHY CONSULTATIONS, WHICH
CULMINATED IN THE HISTORIC DECISION OF THE SECURITY COUN-
CIL ON 27 JULY 1978 AS EXPRESSED IN RESOLUTION 431
CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF NAMIBIA.

IN THIS CONNEXION, ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED IN THIS EXERCISE MAY RIGHTLY SHARE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS THE PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN MADE THUS FAR TOWARDS A SOLUTION OF THE NAMIBIA QUESTION. THE SECURITY COUNCIL, IN ITS RESOLUTION OF 27 JULY, CALLED ON THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO APPOINT A SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR NAMIBIA IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE EARLY INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA THROUGH FREE ELECTIONS AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

IT FURTHER REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SUBMIT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE A REPORT CONTAINING HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL MADE BY THE FIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385 (IN 1976).

IN THIS CONNEXION, THE SECURITY COUNCIL URGED ALL CONCERNED TO EXERT THEIR BEST EFFORTS TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE BY NAMIBIA AT THE EARLIEST DATE.

AFTER THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAD ADOPTED THE RESOLUTION, I WAS APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AS HIS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR NAMIBIA.

IT IS IN THIS CAPACITY THAT I HAVE COME TO NAMIBIA TO CONDUCT, ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, A SURVEY OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION. I AM ACCOMPANIED ON THIS MISSION BY MAJOR-GENERAL HANNES PHILIPP, AND A SUPPORTING SECRETARIAT OF 50 UNITED NATIONS OFFICIALS, DRAWN MOSTLY FROM THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM.

WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE MANDATE ENTRUSTED TO ME BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, I SHALL ESTABLISH CONTACT WITHIN NAMIBIA WITH ALL THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNCIL'S DECISION.

THE MISSION IS SCHEDULED TO COMPLETE ITS WORK WITHIN TWO TO THREE WEEKS AND TO RETURN TO NEW YORK AFTER THAT. ON THE BASIS OF THE FINDINGS OF THE MISSION, THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL THEN SUBMIT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL A REPORT CONTAINING HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385 (1976).

IT IS GENERALLY APPRECIATED THAT THE TASK OF THE MISSION HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE MANIFOLD COMPLEXITIES AND SENSITIVITIES INVOLVE IN AN EXERCISE OF THIS NATURE. FOR OUR JOINT EFFORTS IN

THIS EXERCISE TO SUCCEED, AND TO ASSIST THE MISSION TO
DISCHARGE THE RESPONSIBILITY ENTRUSTED TO IT, WE WILL NEED
THE GOOD WILL AND CO-OPERATION OF ALL CONCERNED.

TO THIS END, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A GENERAL APPEAL FOR
ALL INVOLVED TO JOIN IN A SUSTAINED CONCERTED EFFORT TO
ENSURE THAT THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA FOR
SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE ARE HONOURED AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE.

ON MY OWN PART, I SHOULD LIKE TO ASSURE ALL THE PEOPLE OF
NAMIBIA THAT THE MISSION WILL DISCHARGE FAITHFULLY THE
TASK ENTRUSTED TO IT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANDATE
ENTRUSTED TO ME AND IN A SPIRIT OF IMPARTIALITY, GOOD
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WILL AND CO-OPERATION TOWARDS ALL.

END TEXT.
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